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and to the description and classification of the manuscripts. The discussion of these matters is full and clear. In his zeal to demonstrate that Haase and others attached too much importance to E, the editor is inclined to go to the opposite extreme.

The text is accompanied by references to the ancient authors who made use of the *Naturales Quaestiones* and by a critical apparatus, which shows good judgment in what it gives and omits. An *Index Nominum* and an *Index Testimoniorum* close the volume.

Increased knowledge of the manuscripts and the labors of scholars since Haase have made it possible to improve upon his text in many details. On the other hand, in numerous changes, especially in many of the emendations proposed by the editor himself, there is no improvement over the recension of Haase, which is not yet by any means made superfluous. A large amount of work still remains to be done on the *Naturales Quaestiones*.

FRANK IVAN MERCHANT

IOWA STATE NORMAL SCHOOL

Roman Economic Conditions to the Close of the Republic. By EDMUND HENRY OLIVER. University of Toronto Library, 1907. Pp. xv+200. \$1.50.

This study forms an extra volume in the "University of Toronto Studies in History and Economics." It is a welcome addition to the comparatively few English works on Roman economy and finance. The main division, pp. 41-192, treats of the period from Rome's first Mediterranean expansion to the close of the republic, under four heads: general economic conditions, agriculture, etc., industries, trade and commerce, administration and finance.

In general, the author seems to overrate Roman agriculture and finance and to underestimate the importance of Roman commerce and manufactures. He occasionally combines in one description the statements, e.g., of Cato and Pliny the elder. This seems to be a somewhat questionable mode of procedure. He would have increased the usefulness of the book if he had given modern equivalents for all ancient coins, weights, and measures. He follows the quite common usage of rating the sesterce at about four cents (cf. pp. 159, 160, 165). The Latinists who now make use of the obsolete ratio of 16:1 might be considered belated populists in disguise. So far as the reviewer can see, it is necessary to adopt either the ancient ratio of *ca.* 12:1 or the present market ratio. The former is to be preferred.

A few matters of detail may be noted. On p. 43 the author follows Plutarch's version of the anecdote about the *chlamydes* of Lucullus in preference to that of Horace. On p. 45, 12,000,000 sesterces should be

changed to 12,000, and 40,000,000 to 4,000,000. The MS reading *duo milia* might be preferred to the old reading, *sex milia*. At this point and elsewhere several words are omitted within the quotation marks, and the fact is not indicated. Farther down "Peacocks" should be changed to "eggs," and "easily" should modify the next statement. On p. 49, 133,000 lbs., the reading of Weissenborn-Müller, may be substituted for the old reading of 123,000 pounds. P. 52: "which you even remove": "which" is not found in Horace and should be outside the quotation marks; *usque* probably does not signify "even," and "household goods" a little farther down is a misprint for "household gods." "No colony was founded after 157 b. c." is quite incorrect. "Borian" is presumably a misprint for "Thorian." The language on p. 70: "The diminution in Rome's population is contemporaneous with the expansion of Roman power," is a somewhat misleading assertion and should be modified. Pp. 74, 75: the reference to Plautus should be *Merc.* 396-98; master (Demipho) should take the place of mistress, and "crush grain" (*pensum faciat*) ought to be corrected to "spin," "perform a spinner's task," or the like. P. 81: *quadrantes* appears here and elsewhere. The author seems to have misunderstood the abbreviation Q, which stands for *quadrantal*, a measure of about 5.77 imperial gallons. "Telam" is probably not a web, but a loom. P. 82: "eight hundred jars with a capacity of five sacks of grapes." *Culleus* here and below is apparently a measure of capacity = ca. 119 gallons. The passage may be rendered: "jars with a (total) capacity of 800 *cullei* (ca. 95,200 gals.) in which five vintages can be (stored)."

Quid multa? Mistakes are easy to find in most books. A word may be added concerning the bibliography, which is apparently an after-thought. Some commissions and omissions are *etwas entfremdend*. Adams' *Roman Antiquities*, 1792, Hüllmann's *Römische Grundverfassung*, 1832, Preston and Dodge's *The Private Life of the Romans*, 1894, and various magazine articles are included, the histories of Niebuhr, Schwegler, Ranke, Mommsen's *Geschichte des römischen Münzwesens*, Iwan von Müller's *Handbuch*, etc., and all the works of Herzog, Madvig, and Willems are excluded. As a rule, the number of the edition and of the volumes of a work is not stated. The dates of publication are in several instances incorrect or misleading. For example, the *Handbuch*, etc., of Marquardt and Mommsen is said to have been published in 1876. The third edition of Vols. I and II appeared in 1887, and the first edition of Vol. III in 1887-88, etc. Pauly-Wissowa's *Real-encyclopädie*, etc., is said to have been issued in 1894.

Apart from the bibliography, the study is a careful and fairly accurate piece of work, and, as a first effort, it is very promising.

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